



The new conceptual image of the Harbour entrance. It is slightly different to our previous images as through our tender process, further modelling and design work has refined the walls.

Harbour Update

We have made good progress towards our Harbour entrance over recent months on a few fronts. Many of you would have seen the activity around the site with geotechnical investigations completed down to the low tide mark. This gives us a good understanding of the ground under about 50% of the walls and, most importantly, the ground under the entrance to the proposed harbour. These results, along with recent design work, allow us to finalise the Business Case during October.

In very exciting news on our sister project, the mussel farm, many of you would be aware of the pre-settlement offer which sees up to 5000ha reserved for aquaculture development near Ōpōtiki. This will be a massive expansion opportunity for Whakatōhea and research a boon for the Ōpōtiki district as a whole.

Funky footpaths

Have you noticed a strange zig-zag along sections of street that have had their footpaths repaired? Your eyes aren't playing tricks on you – there is a simple explanation!

Many existing footpaths in Opotiki were built in the 1980s and were around metre wide. Our subdivision standard is 1.4 metres wide and that standard applied to us as well.

But when we are repairing just short sections of the footpath, sometimes this means the two different widths – the new and the old – are side by side. New sections and longer repair sections will all be a consistent width.



Have Your Say on Rubbish

During October we want you to tell us what you think about the way rubbish is dealt with in Opotiki. We know you feel strongly about it and we are soon to do a waste review, so let's hear your opinion.

Tell us what you like, want changed, want done better, want added in, want thrown out or just can't live without. Do you have a great idea? From your weekly rubbish pick up, our Resource Recovery Centres, illegal dumping, bins in town and at beaches, right through to our zero-waste strategy, we're sure you've got views on something to do with rubbish.

Whichever way we receive it, every bit of feedback will be appreciated and considered during the review planning. You can post, comment or PM us on www.facebook.com/opotikidistrictcouncil. (Don't forget to like and share posts by others you see that you agree with. Having more of our community involved in the decisions we make is better for everyone.) You can use the online feedback form at www.odc.govt.nz/rubbish, email us at info@odc.govt.nz or keep it old school and pick up a feedback form from Council's office, Ōpōtiki District Library or Ōpōtiki i-SITE.



Green Thumbs

Show our beautiful backyard some love this spring. Get involved by protecting, growing, nurturing and caring for the natural spaces that make the Opotiki district famous.

The Birds-a-Plenty festival has been running for 16 years and is a celebration of the Bay's wonderful migratory and native birds. There are all sorts of events like planting days, bird counts, tours and walks, and of course the famous photo competition. Check out their Facebook page for more information.

October 14-21 is New Zealand's Conservation Week. There are all sorts of fun activities to get up to including more than a few prizes to be won on the DoC website www.doc.govt.nz. Find out about a local care group or volunteers who look after their corner of paradise. Ask locally or find out more

Pay it Online

Dog registration renewals and infringements can now be paid online through our website's fully updated online payment functionality. This means dog owners will be able to select the address that they would like their dog tags sent to and they can be posted out to them when they pay online.



What's on

All Ōpōtiki events are 

The year is warming up and so are the summer events – school galas, fishing competitions, Trash and Treasure, fundraisers, market days and more.

The Summer Festival is just around the corner, so keep an eye out for the calendar full of fantastic events in December and January including the annual raft race and lantern festival. And don't forget the Birds-a-Plenty Festival with events throughout the spring months.

14 October

(check out these Mōtū – tastic rides):

- Mōtū Challenge
- RiverLock Mōtū 160
- Mōtū Duathlon
- Blue Light Mini Mōtū

29 October

Rere Falls Trail adventure ride

For more information on any of the wide range of Ōpōtiki clubs, groups, activities and events, visit the Ōpōtiki i-SITE or www.opotikin.com or call (07) 315 3031.

Our Refreshed Logo

The keen-eyed in the district may have noticed a slight change to our logo recently. The new, refreshed logo keeps the same colours and themes as we have always had, but it is cleaner and more modern looking, it has the right macrons in our name, it has a rising sun and koru, and a clearer and easier to read font.

From a technical point of view, it allows more variability in its use (we can have a horizontal and vertical version), it scales better and the colours work better in a digital format. We are not replacing all the many places that our logo is used, but as things come up for replacement, you'll notice more of the new one popping up around the place.



Opōtiki District Council

STRONG COMMUNITY STRONG FUTURE

Conservation Week



TE WIKI TIAKINA TAIAO - 14-22 WHIRINGA-Ā-NUKU

— TIAKINA TUKUNA Ā-IPURANGI —
#LOVEMYBACKYARD

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Mātauranga

Tiakina - arohatia manaakihia ngā taonga, mai i te rangi ki te whenua!

Me whai wāhi te rangona atu ki te hā o Papatūānuku me ona karanga aroha, kaitiakitanga. Rapua ngā mahi tiakina taiao, me ngā whakataetae kei tō wāhi noho i runga i a conservationweek.org.nz

NgāZōtōtoGovernment

Driver Mentors Needed

The Opōtiki Community Driver Mentor Programme is the result of a collaborative effort between Council, NZTA, Bay of Plenty Regional Council, and Eastbay REAP. It works to overcome one of the barriers to work for a number of people around the district by helping people get the skills and experience behind a wheel to sit their restricted driving test.

More than 60 learner drivers have enrolled and almost all (94%) who sat their restricted driving test have passed. Great work!

To keep the momentum going, more volunteer mentors are needed to provide the time and patience to help these rangatahi get behind the wheel. If you want to support young people in our community and would be a good mentor for one or several learner drivers, contact EastBay REAP to see if you can volunteer. Or, if you want to find out if the Programme can help you move from your learner to restricted licence, give Eastbay REAP a call.



Check out these awesome graduates with their well-earned restricted licence. The cars were proudly sponsored by Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

In brief

Our **Long Term Plan** process is underway as we start thinking about where we want to be ten years or more from now. We'll be seeking your thoughts and feedback throughout the process, so stay up to date and sign up to receive updates from us at www.odc.govt.nz/draftltp.

Do you love your library? Now you can keep up to date with all the library's strange and fun activities on our **library Facebook page**. School Holiday programmes, new books, DVDs, visiting storytellers and more. Like and share the page today.

If you are eligible for a **Rates Rebate**, it is a good time to get your application form signed and in to us. The Rates Rebate Scheme was established in 1973 to provide a subsidy to low-income homeowners on the cost of their rates. Find out who is eligible and what you need to do on our website www.odc.govt.nz/ratesrebate. Applications forms can be downloaded from the website or you can pick up a copy from reception.

Congratulations to all those who received funding through this year's **Creative Communities** grants. We have had some amazing talents on display over the years and the fund is going from strength to strength. If you didn't get your application in this year, put a note in your diary now to make sure you are ready for Creative Communities 2018!

Years of Dedication to Civil Defence Recognised

Council's Works Manager, Ian Castles was recently recognised at a region-wide event for his many years of service to Civil Defence and Emergency Management.

Ian was appointed as Civil Defence Officer for Ōpōtiki District Council in 1990 and is still involved with this work today. Ian has also held the role of Principal Rural Fire Officer and serves as a volunteer firefighter. His contribution to the community has been outstanding.



Making the Road Between Ōpōtiki and Ōhope Safer

The New Zealand Transport Agency has been working to develop options to improve the safety of SH2 and Wainui Road between Ōpōtiki and Ōhope. More than 100 people attended open days earlier this year, providing feedback from a local user perspective. All that information along with feedback from the Police, councils, freight groups and iwi-partners is helping to determine the best possible safety solution for this stretch of road. The Transport Agency expect to hold another open day this summer for people to see the proposed plans and speak to the safety team. We'll help make sure those meetings are well advertised so keep an eye on our Facebook page for more.



Welcome Gerard

This month we welcome Gerard McCormack to the Council team as the new Planning and Regulatory Manager. Gerard comes to us from the West Coast (but even further back from Ireland via the UK).

Gerard has a strong background in consents and compliance, and looks forward to bringing those skills from the West Coast up to our warmer weather!

He will be accompanied by his wife Sarah, a Kiwi, whom he met ten years ago on what became an extended OE for her in London.

Before he arrived he said "There are a lot of exciting projects being undertaken to unlock the untapped potential within the District which I am keen to assist with. I also look forward to continuing to improve upon the good work that has already been carried out within the team."

